

Job Description

Position Title: Middle School Student Support Instructor

Purpose of Position

The Student Support Instructor fulfills the mission of DMC as a student-focused professional who plays a key role in assisting students who are experiencing difficulties in the classroom. This position provides expertise and intentional support to students who demonstrate behavioral, social, and educational challenges. DMC teachers are supported and empowered through a shared vision of learning to foster a school culture of academic excellence and spiritual growth where learners flourish.

Position:

- Full-time
- Salaried, contracted employee
- Full-time Benefit Eligible / School Year

Reports To: Head of Middle School

Evaluated By: Head of Middle School

Qualifications:

- Minimum of BS/BA in education or related field.
- Special Education or Instructional Strategist certification or experience is preferred.
- Applicable Iowa License.
- In agreement with the Des Moines Christian School (DMCS) Statement of Faith.
- Active member/regular attendee of Bible-believing church and committed to growth in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Professional Profile:

- Demonstrated commitment to the mission of DMCS: *Equipping minds and nurturing hearts to impact the world for Christ.*
- A teacher and learner at heart who loves students of all ages and exudes enthusiasm for shepherding the growth of children.
- Characterized with integrity and maintains confidentiality.
- Utilizes critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Demonstrates consistent spiritual leadership.
- Proven ability to work in a leadership role with diverse groups, including teachers, students, administrators, and parents.
- Demonstrates effective verbal and written communication skills.
- Adapts communication style to suit different audiences.
- Uses multiple strategies to deliver instruction that meets the needs of learners.
- Exhibits initiative for working with minimal direct supervision.

Responsibilities:

Instructional

- Designs and implements targeted interventions for students in their academic or executive functioning area(s) to maximize the potential of each child.
- Works cooperatively with teachers, interpreting the abilities and disabilities of the students, assisting in classroom intervention strategies and instruction, and partnering as a co-teacher in the classroom when applicable.
- Provides instructional support to teachers in meeting accommodation plans.
- Researches and implements best practice programming to support differentiated instruction

Assessments & Data Analysis

- Assesses students with appropriate diagnostic tools and evaluates student's progress through the utilization of established procedures.
- Documents ongoing consultation with teachers and maintains a record of modified instructional strategies and results for each student where appropriate.

Communication & Collaboration

- Partners with school counselors to evaluate student needs and develop appropriate program structure.
- Communicates regularly with parents and faculty regarding the educational, social emotional, and spiritual needs of students.
- Oversees student accommodation plans and facilitates annual plan reviews.
- Collaborates with the Area Education Agency for student evaluation.
- Participates in building level team and/or grade level meetings, as appropriate.

Responsibilities of all Instructional Positions:

- Ensures the DMC mission drives all curricular and extracurricular activities.
- Exhibits a love of teaching and a passion to see each student succeed.
- Integrates a biblical worldview in daily instruction that examines God's creation, man's brokenness, the redemption of Christ, and God's future restoration. Coupled with classroom discussion, faculty create formational learning experiences (FLEx) that engage students in real-world opportunities to impact the world for Christ.
- Develops trusting, productive relationships with students in order to create a safe, positive, and productive learning environment.
- Possesses knowledge about cognitive, social, and emotional development of learners including how students learn at any given developmental level, how students progress in a certain subject area, awareness of individual needs and abilities, how to tailor instruction to meet each learner's needs, and how to assess learning appropriate for the age and content area.
- Demonstrates expertise in a given content or subject area as well as knowledge of the standards, learning targets, and appropriate materials for the student age and content area.
- Solicits feedback from students to self-reflect on their own teaching, set goals for improvement, and grow in the craft of teaching.
- Engages in ongoing professional growth conversations with the Principal.
- Demonstrates patience, care, and kindness for all learners and families.
- Partners with parents through effective, consistent communication.
- Serves as a collaborative, productive team member who participates in professional learning communities, school events, department meetings, and other committee work that enhances the experience for faculty and students at Des Moines Christian School.
- All other duties as assigned.